

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A siding unit comprising:

a panel having at least three courses comprised of a cellulosic/polymer composite, said composite comprising:

- (a) at least one cellulosic filler in an amount of about 30% to about 60% by weight of said composite; and
- (b) at least one polyvinyl chloride material in an amount of about 40% to about 70% by weight of said composite, said at least one polyvinyl chloride material comprised of at least one stabilizer in an amount of about 1 to about 10 parts per 100 parts of a polyvinyl chloride resin, at least one lubricant in an amount of about 2 to about 12 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin, at least one process aid in an amount of about 0.5 to about 8 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin, and at least one inorganic filler in an amount up to about 10 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin.

2. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 40% to about 50% by weight of said composite.

3. (original) The siding unit of claim 2 wherein said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 48% to about 50% by weight of said composite.
4. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one cellulosic filler is wood flour.
5. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one polyvinyl chloride material is in an amount of about 50% to about 60% by weight of said composite.
6. (original) The siding unit of claim 5 wherein said at least one polyvinyl chloride material is in an amount of about 50% to about 52% by weight of said composite.
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one stabilizer is in an amount of about 3 to about 5 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin.
10. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one lubricant is in an amount of about 4 to about 8 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin.
11. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein said at least one process aid is in an amount of about 1 to about 3 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin.
12. (canceled)
13. (original) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein:

said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 40% to about 50% by weight of said composite; and

said at least one polyvinyl chloride material is in an amount of about 50% to about 60% by weight of said composite, said at least one polyvinyl chloride material being comprised of said at least one stabilizer in an amount of about 3 to about 5 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin, said at least one lubricant in an amount of about 4 to about 8 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin, and said at least one process aid in an amount of about 1 to about 3 parts per 100 parts of said polyvinyl chloride resin.

14. (currently amended) A siding unit comprising:

a panel having at least three courses comprised of a cellulosic/polymer composite, said composite comprising:

- (a) at least one cellulosic filler in an amount of about 30% to about 70% by weight of said composite; and
- (b) at least one polypropylene material in an amount of about 30% to about 70% by weight of said composite, said at least one polypropylene material comprised of at least one lubricant in an amount of about 10 to about 20 parts per 100 parts of a polypropylene resin and at least one inorganic filler in an amount up to about 70 parts per 100 parts of said polypropylene resin.

15. (original) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 40% to about 50% by weight of said composite.

16. (original) The siding unit of 14 wherein said at least one cellulosic filler is wood flour.

17. (original) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein said at least one polypropylene material is in an amount of about 50% to about 60% by weight of said composite.

18. (original) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein said at least one lubricant is in an amount of about 14 to about 19 parts per 100 parts of said polypropylene resin.

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein said at least one inorganic filler is in an amount of about 20 to about 60 parts per 100 parts of said polypropylene resin.

21. (previously presented) The siding unit of claim 1 further comprising a foam backer secured to said panel.

22. (previously presented) The siding unit of claim 13 wherein:

said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 48% to about 50% by weight of said composite; and

said at least one polyvinyl chloride material is in an amount of about 50% to about 52% by weight of said composite.

23. (previously presented) The siding unit of claim 14 further comprising a foam backer secured to said panel.

24. (previously presented) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein:

said at least one cellulosic filler is in an amount of about 40% to about 50% by weight of said composite; and

said at least one polypropylene material is in an amount of about 50% to about 60% by weight of said composite, said at least one polypropylene material being comprised of said at least one lubricant in an amount of about 14 to about 19 parts per 100 parts of said polypropylene resin and said at least one inorganic filler in an amount of about 20 to about 60 parts per 100 parts of said polypropylene resin.

25. (new) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein:

said panel has a portion that folds over to form a tongue, said tongue adapted to fit in a groove of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said tongue is comprised of said composite.

26. (new) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein:

said panel has a bottom portion that forms a groove that opens toward a top portion of said panel, said groove adapted to receive a tongue of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said groove is comprised of said composite.

27. (new) The siding unit of claim 1 wherein:

said panel has a top portion that folds over to form a tongue and a bottom portion that forms a groove that opens toward said top portion such that said tongue is adapted to fit in said groove of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said tongue and said groove are comprised of said composite.

28. (new) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein:

said panel has a portion that folds over to form a tongue, said tongue adapted to fit in a groove of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said tongue is comprised of said composite.

29. (new) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein:

said panel has a bottom portion that forms a groove that opens toward a top portion of said panel, said groove adapted to receive a tongue of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said groove is comprised of said composite.

30. (new) The siding unit of claim 14 wherein:

said panel has a top portion that folds over to form a tongue and a bottom portion that forms a groove that opens toward said top portion such that said tongue is adapted to fit in said groove of an adjacent, substantially similar siding unit;

wherein said tongue and said groove are comprised of said composite.